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LETTER DATED 3 SEPTEMBER 1991 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In accordance with the United Nations plan for the referendum in Western Sahara (documents S/21360 of 18 June 1990 and S/22464 of 19 April 1991), and Security Council resolution 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a note regarding the implementation of the cease-fire.

Concerned at recent developments along the international frontier, I have decided that United Nations efforts should be concentrated, at this stage, in the areas referred to in the note. In this context, it is useful to recall that paragraph 20 of document S/21360 stipulates that the establishment and functioning of the Observer Group will be "in accordance with the general principles applicable to United Nations peace-keeping operations".

(Signed) Javier PEREZ de CUELLAR

Annex

Note regarding the implementation of the cease-fire
in Western Sahara

1. In the context of the United Nations plan (S/21360 of 18 June 1990 and S/22464 of 19 April 1991), and bearing in mind the fact that the parties have accepted 6 September as the date of the cease-fire, the Secretary-General intends to deploy, as of that date, military observers to verify the cease-fire and the cessation of hostilities in the areas referred to below.
2. In the wake of recent developments, 10 observation posts have been selected at this stage for the deployment of some 10 observers: Aguenit, Awsard, Bir Lahlou, Mahbes, Meharrize, Mijek, Oum Dreyga, Smara, Tifariti, Zug.
3. Staff deployed in this specific context will consist of 240 persons, including about 100 military observers and a small medical team. The remainder will be responsible for command and control functions, logistical support and communications.
4. It is understood that full deployment of MINURSO will not begin until the activities set forth in the timetable for the plan are well under way.
5. The observers will arrive at Laâyoune as early as 5 September 1991 so as to be deployed in forward positions in time to supervise the cease-fire.
6. As far as the means of communication are concerned, the posts will be connected to one another and to the command post. Communications will also be established with Headquarters and with other United Nations centres.
7. As far as transport is concerned, all the military observers will have road vehicles at their disposal to enable them to move within their respective sectors. The command and logistical elements will also have the necessary means to enable them to fulfil their functions. The local authorities are being requested, in accordance with established practice, to facilitate transport during the early days of the deployment.
8. Until a supply system is put in place to meet the requirements of the observers, they will have field rations and foodstuffs necessary for the performance of their duties.
9. Aircraft required for logistical support, transportation of equipment and surveillance will be deployed progressively in order to facilitate the work of the observers.
10. It is understood that, in accordance with established international practice, the staff of the United Nations contingent must enjoy freedom of movement and communication, as well as other facilities necessary for the performance of their duties. To that end, the contingent and its staff must

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necessarily be accorded all the relevant privileges and immunities provided for in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, as well as those required for the purposes of the proposed operation. Moreover, in accordance with established practice, the host country should offer facilities, especially at the beginning of the deployment (such as domestic transport and accommodation), and subsistence until the Mission becomes self-reliant.
